

The measures that have been taken to help and protect the islands through the coronavirus crisis are extreme, but profoundly necessary. They are essential for the wellbeing of the population, and to guard our critical infrastructure.

However, there are still opportunities to support the voluntary and charitable organisations that work so hard throughout the year to provide care, support, facilities, and services throughout the Bailiwick of Guernsey. While some organisations have had to scale back their work at this time, others are working harder than ever to meet the needs of the community.

Although most people currently have to remain at home, there are things you might be able to do to **support our community**.

Many people have expressed a wish to volunteer some time to help people in the island. There have been many offers on social media, through the Guernsey Press, and on local radio.



However, it is important that **any** voluntary activity is undertaken completely safely. Safety is essential, both in terms of contagion (i.e. not risking the possibility of spreading the virus) and safeguarding (ensuring the protection of both the volunteer, and the person being helped).

If you would like to volunteer to help, please email: help@volunteer.gg

Your email will go directly to St. John Ambulance, where a team is coordinating and logging all offers of help, and matching with requests for assistance. Where necessary, they will obtain additional information from you and can undertake background (police) checks.

Charities will also “advertise” if they need additional volunteer help on the website www.volunteer.gg

If you choose to do something independently, it is vital that you do so safely, and ensure that you adhere to the latest advice issued by the States of Guernsey and Public Health.



Caring Caller - for people who live alone, or are lonely.

Tel. 720088

Groceries/Prescriptions - for help collecting essentials.

Tel. 742147



SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY DURING THIS CRISIS

The Voluntary and Charitable Sector relies on donations to fund the work undertaken in a wide range of sectors throughout the community. However, at the very time that many organisations are finding an increase in demand for their care and services, there has been a substantial reduction in funding. Charity shops have closed, fundraising events have been cancelled, and sponsored events not going ahead.

If you would like to make a donation to a local charity, you can do so via the online donation website www.giving.gg



Giving.gg is administered and operated by volunteers, and is available (free of charge) to members of the Association of Guernsey Charities. It does not apply any setup or account fees, and there are no administration deductions from donations, as there are with most UK donation platforms. If the donation is made by credit or debit card there will be a small transaction fee charged by the card processor. This means that the charity receives more of your donation.

The Great Community Challenge has been designed to encourage islanders to support local good causes through this time of crisis. While there is a need to stay at home, there is an opportunity for people to be imaginative and create a home-based sponsored activity.



Details of the activity should be added to www.giving.gg where the charity (or charities) to benefit can be selected.

The event can then be promoted by personal social media, encouraging friends and contacts to sponsor.



It is essential to keep up to date with the latest advice issued by the States of Guernsey. Visit www.gov.gg/coronavirus



If you are experiencing domestic abuse or violence, or are concerned about someone else, visit www.safer.gg or phone the Safer 24/7 helpline 01481 721999. If it is an emergency dial 999.



Mental health is as important as physical health in these difficult times. If you need help, advice, or support, or just some top tips while at home, visit www.guernseymind.org.gg



This has been produced by the Association of Guernsey Charities. For details of over 320 local charities, voluntary organisations, and support groups, visit www.charity.org.gg